WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1   1.   A method of populating a knowledge base, the method comprising:

2   creating at least one claim element based on information related to at least one of

3   a claim form and an updated specification;

4   creating at least one rule from said information related to at least one of a claim

5   form and an updated specification;

6   applying said at least one rule to said at least one claim element to form

7   knowledge; and

8   populating the knowledge base with said knowledge acquired from said applying

9   step.

1   2.   The method of claim 1, further comprising translating an edit to yield a translated

2   edit, the translated edit being utilized in the step of creating the at least one claim element.

1   3.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising binding at least one

2   conclusion variable responsive to the applying step.

1   4.   The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of creating the at least one

2   claim element comprises:

3   creating at least one attribute; and

4   assigning at least one value to said attribute.

1   5.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising validating a claim using

2   appropriate claim-element knowledge in the populated knowledge base.

1   6.   The method according to claim 1, wherein the step of creating at least one claim

2   element comprises the steps of:

3   creating at least one reference claim element; and

4   creating at least one reported claim element.

1   7.   The method according to claim 6, further comprising the step of validating a

2   claim by comparing said at least one reported claim element to said at least one reference claim

3   element.

1   8.   The method according to claim 2, further comprising the step of verifying that the

2   translated edit has been correctly translated.

1   9.   An article of manufacture for populating a knowledge base used in validating

2   medical claims, the article of manufacture comprising:

3   at least one computer readable medium;

4   processor instructions included on the at least one computer readable medium, the

5   processor instructions configured to be readable from the at least one computer readable medium

6   by at least one processor and thereby cause the at least one processor to operate as to:

7   create at least one claim element based on information related to at least one of a

8   claim form and an updated specification;

9   create at least one rule from said information related to at least one of a claim

10   form and an updated specification;

11   apply said at least one rule to said at least one claim element to form knowledge;

12   and

13   populate the knowledge base with said knowledge acquired from said applying

14   step.

1   10.   The article of manufacture of claim 9, further comprising processor instructions

2   configured to cause the at least one processor to operate as to translate an edit to yield a

3   translated edit, the translated edit being utilized in the step of creating the at least one claim

4   element.

1   11.   The article of manufacture of claim 9, further comprising processor instructions

2   configured to cause the at least one processor to operate as to create at least one attribute and to

3   assign at least one value to said attribute.

1   12.   The article of manufacture of claim 9, wherein the creation of at least one claim

2   element comprises:

3   creating at least one reference claim element; and

4   creating at least one reported claim element

1   13.   The article of manufacture of claim 9, further comprising processor instructions

2   configured to cause the at least one processor to operate as to validate a claim using appropriate

3   claim-element knowledge in the populated knowledge base.

1   14.   The article of manufacture of claim 10, further comprising processor instructions

2   configured to cause the at least one processor to operate as to verify whether the translated edit

3   has been correctly translated.

1   15.   A system for populating a knowledge base, the system comprising:

2   means for creating at least one claim element based on information related to at

3   least one of a claim form and an updated specification;

4   means for creating at least one rule from said information related to at least one of

5   a claim form and an updated specification;

6   means for applying said at least one rule to said at least one claim element to form

7   knowledge; and

8   means for populating the knowledge base with said knowledge acquired from said

9   means for applying.

1   16.   The system of claim 15, further comprising means for translating an edit to yield a

2   translated edit, the translated edit being utilized by the means for creating the at least one claim

3   element

1   17.   The system according to claim 15, further comprising means for binding at least

2   one conclusion variable responsive to an output of the means for applying.

1   18.   The system according to claim 17, wherein the means for creating the at least one

2   claim element comprises:

3   means for creating at least one attribute; and

4   means for assigning at least one value to said attribute.

1   19.   The system according to claim 15, further comprising means for validating a

2   claim using appropriate claim-element knowledge in the populated knowledge base.

1   20.   The system according to claim 15, wherein the means for creating the at least one

2   claim element comprises:

3   means for creating at least one reference claim element; and

4   means for creating at least one reported claim element.

1   21.   The system according to claim 20, further comprising means for validating a

2   claim by comparing said at least one reported claim element to said at least one reference claim

3   element.

1   22.   The system according to claim 16, further comprising means for verifying that the

2   translated edit has been correctly translated.